

## CHAPTER 8.4.

INFECTION WITH *ECHINOCOCCUS GRANULOSUS*USA Comments

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## Article 8.4.3.

Programmes for the prevention and control of infection with *Echinococcus granulosus*

In order to achieve success in the prevention and control of infection with *E. granulosus*, ~~the Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authority should carry out community awareness programmes on to inform people of the risk factors associated with transmission of *E. granulosus* and the importance of hydatidosis in animals and humans, the role of dogs (including stray dogs); and the importance of responsible dog ownership, and the implementation of the following the need to implement preventive prevention and control measures described below;~~ and the importance of responsible dog ownership.

**Rationale:** The addition of “the Veterinary Authority or other” adds confusion. The term “Competent authority” is all encompassing. From the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code: *Competent Authority* means the Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of a Member having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and in the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the whole territory.

Other changes suggested provide improved grammar.

1. Prevention of infection in dogs (owned and stray)

~~The following measures should be undertaken:~~

- a) Dogs should not be fed offal from any animal species unless it has been treated in accordance with Article 8.4.6.
- b) Dogs should ~~be prevented from scavenging on not have access to~~ dead animals of ungulates and macropod marsupials, any animal species, including ~~wildlife~~ species; all dead animals which Carcasses should be disposed of in accordance with provisions in Chapter Article 4.12.6.

**Rationale:** Improved readability

- c) The *Veterinary Authority* or other *Competent Authority* should ensure that *slaughterhouses/abattoirs* have implemented measures that prevent access of dogs to the premises, and to animal carcasses and waste containing offal.
- d) When livestock cannot be slaughtered in a *slaughterhouse/abattoir*, and are ~~home~~-slaughtered on-farm, dogs should be prevented from having access to raw offal, and not be fed offal unless it has been treated in accordance with Article 8.4.6.

## 2. Control of infection in dogs (owned and stray)

- a) For control of stray dog populations, the ~~Veterinary Authority or other~~ *Competent Authority* should ensure compliance with relevant aspects of Chapter 7.7.

**Rationale:** The addition of “the Veterinary Authority or other” adds confusion. The term “Competent authority” is all encompassing. See further comments under Point 1 above.

- b) Dogs known to be infected or suspected of having access to raw offal, or in contact with livestock should be dewormed at least every 4-6 weeks with praziquantel (5 mg/kg) or another cestocidal product with comparable efficacy; where possible, faeces excreted up to 72 hours post treatment should be disposed of by incineration or burial.
- c) In areas of persistent transmission, the *Veterinary Authority* ~~and other Competent Authority~~ should collaborate with other Competent Authorities to identify the possible origins of the infection, and review and amend, as appropriate, the control programme.

**Rationale:** Improved readability

## 3. Control of infection in livestock

- a) The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that all slaughtered livestock are subjected to post-mortem meat inspection in accordance with Chapter 6.2., including inspection of offal for hydatids ~~cysts~~.
- b) When hydatids ~~cysts~~ are detected during post-mortem meat inspection:
- i) offal containing hydatids ~~cysts~~ should be disposed of in accordance with Article 4.12.6. ~~destroyed by incineration or burial, or rendered,~~ or treated in accordance with Article 8.4.6.;
  - ii) an investigation should be carried out by the *Veterinary Authority* ~~Services~~ and other Competent Authority to identify the possible origin of the *infection*, and review and amend, as appropriate, the control programme.

Article 8.4.4.

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